

CLAIMS

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We claim:

1. Immunoglobulins characterized in that they are immunoglobulins of the classes IgG<sub>2</sub> and corresponding sub-classes, specific to the excretion-secretion antigens of promastigotes or amastigotes of *Leishmania sp*, capable of lyzing the amastigotes and promastigotes of *Leishmania sp* in vitro and neutralizing their proliferation.

2. Immunoglobulins according to claim 1, characterized in that they are specific to the major immunogen, excreted-secreted by promastigotes or amastigotes of *Leishmania sp*, belonging to the family of the *Protein Surface Antigens* and corresponding to a range of molecular mass from 52 to 58 Kda.

3. Immunoglobulins according to claim 2, characterized in that they are specific to the carboxyterminal part of the major excreted-secreted immunogen.

4. Immunoglobulins according to any one of the claims 1 to 3, characterized in that they are isotypes IgG<sub>2</sub> in dogs and specific isotypes in other mammals, isotypes linked to cell-mediated immunity depending on T lymphocytes of the Th1 type.

5. Use of immunoglobulins according to any one of the claims 1 to 4 as markers of a cell-mediated immunity allowing notably the detection of a cell-mediated immunity depending on T lymphocytes and preferably T lymphocytes of the Th1 type in mammals.

6. Use of immunoglobulins according to any one of the claims 1 to 4 as markers of the resistance to leishmaniasis and to infections by pathogenic intracellular micro-organisms in mammals.

7. Use of immunoglobulins according to any one of the claims 1 to 4 as markers of immunoprophylactic and immunotherapeutic vaccination in mammals for leishmaniasis and infections by pathogenic intracellular micro-organisms.

8. Immunoglobulins according to any one of the claims 1 to 4, as effectors of immunotherapy in the context of leishmaniasis and infections by pathogenic intracellular micro-organisms in mammals.

9. Use of immunoglobulins according to claims 1 to 4, for an in vitro diagnostic product detecting one or more epitopes carried by the terminal ends  $\text{NH}_2$  and  $\text{COOH}$  of the Protein Surface Antigens excreted-secreted by *Leishmania sp.*